GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4618
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2001
QUALITY OF MEDICINES
DINSHA J. PATEL

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Indian medicines are of poor quality and as such these are not able to compete with foreign drugs;

(b) Whether it is also a fact that due to poor quality of medicines, Indian firms are not getting sufficient export orders even from the under developed countries; and

(c) If so, the steps proposed by the Government to ensure better quality of medicines from the India companies?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) & (b) : Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

(c) : To further facilitate compliance of quality for purposes of export the following measures have been taken :-

(1) Exporting nations have been advised to obtain assurance from the Drug Controller of India that the manufacturing plant in which the product is produced conforms to requirements for good practices in the manufacture and quality control of drugs as recommended by WHO. This is being provided when such references are received.

(2) Where any serious quality defects of drugs come to notice, the importing country has been advised to provide information so that corrective action can be taken.

(3) Zonal officers of the Central Drugs standards Control Organisation/Port Officers have been advised to draw random sampling for quality validation of exported drugs.

(4) The requirements of GMP are being upgraded and harmonised with international standards.